

# Desktop Dispatch

GPHLO Information for Busy Practitioners



## Genetic Counselling

Genetic Health Queensland (GHQ) is a state-wide service which provides diagnosis and counselling for people with an inherited condition in the family. The Service was previously known as the Queensland Clinical Genetics Service. Locally, a clinic operates from Bundaberg Hospital every 2 months.

Following review, patients are returned to their GP/specialist for treatment and management of their condition.

Situations where referral to GHQ may be appropriate include:

- Concerns about a condition that occurs in the family which may have a genetic basis
- Concerns about a family member with birth defects (congenital malformations)
- Tests in pregnancy (prenatal diagnosis) for genetic conditions
- Women who have had several pregnancy losses, still births, or early infant deaths
- Effects of infections, drugs or other substances used during pregnancy
- Couples who are close relatives

Further information may be found at the Queensland Health website:

<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/rch/professionals/genetics.asp#referral>

**Referral process:** Named referral to Dr Julie McGaughran from a medical practitioner required. Please include your Provider Number.

**Contact details:** Diana Moynihan, Genetic Counsellor.  
Bundaberg Tel: **4150 2794** Fax: **4150 2799**  
Brisbane Tel: **3636 1987** Fax: **3636 1987**

**Do you have an idea, a problem or a solution?**  
Please contact me on 4151 0814 or [tryan@gplinks.org.au](mailto:tryan@gplinks.org.au) .

Therese Ryan  
GPHLO  
Edition 11  
09/10

\*(Previous editions of Desktop Dispatch are available on the GP Links website under the Publications tab)